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The Geo. Wittbold Co.

# LARGEST PALM GROWERS IN THE WEST

Chicago, Illinois.

✓ ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIPTIVE ✓  
✓ CATALOGUE FOR 1901 AND 1902 ✓



# DEPARTMENTS

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## Retail Cut Flower Department

### STORES

1657 Buckingham Place, Phone, Lake View 136,  
512 North Clark Street, Phone, North 588.

Our facilities for fine Floral Work are the best and we handle only the choicest grade of cut flowers.



## Greenhouse Department

Corner Halsted St., Aldine Ave. and Buckingham Place.

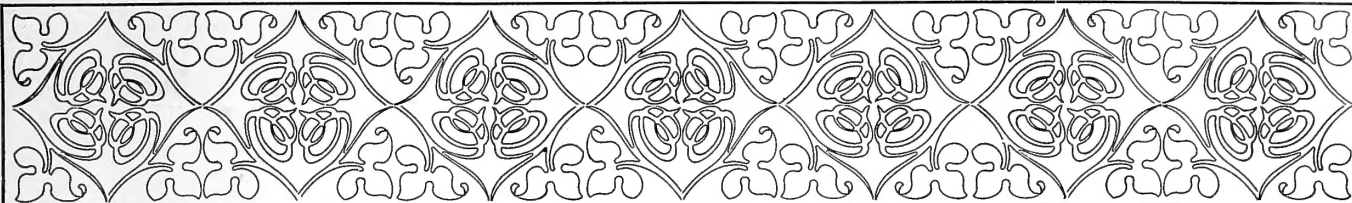
Our three acres of glass are given exclusively to the growing of Palms, Ferns and Tropical Plants.



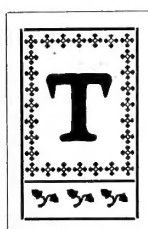
## Perpetuated Plant Department

Office: 1657 Buckingham Place.  
1708 North Halsted Street.

We manufacture a full line of Perpetuated Palms and Palm Leaves.



## TO OUR PATRONS



THE following pages give illustrations and descriptions of plants grown by us, and owing to the fact that many are unacquainted with the necessary treatment of plants for home culture, we give on following page such rules and suggestions as will be of benefit.

Our growing capacity has been greatly increased in the last year and our stock, which is well proportioned and healthy, has never been as large as at present. In view of our favorable location, our shipping facilities are perfect, having quick access to all freight houses in the city. The different Express Companies make two calls at our place each day.

TERMS--To parties unknown to us, CASH with order or acceptable references.

Trusting that you will favor us with a trial order (providing we do not already enjoy your estimable patronage), and that we may be given an early opportunity to prove our unquestioned reliability, we await your further pleasure.

### THE GEO. WITTBOLD COMPANY

1657 Buckingham Place

Chicago, U. S. A.

# P A L M S

**T**HE various genera included under the popular name of "Palms" comprise some of the most noble and majestic objects in the whole vegetable kingdom. Their number is something extraordinary, both as to species and individuals, and although casual observers may think they have a somewhat similar appearance, their differences are quite in keeping with their number. In regard to their horticultural and decorative purposes they stand pre-eminent. Of their suitability for purposes of open air decoration in the summer months, and for the embellishment of the store, greenhouse and conservatory and dwelling-house, all people of refined taste have but one opinion; they all unite in the highest praise for their conspicuous adaptability. None of the palms rapidly become too large to be accommodated in a dwelling house of even modest dimensions. Nothing can be more effective for the decoration of the parlor, drawing room or of entrance halls, corridors and grand staircases; indeed, it is impossible to conceive any place requiring decoration, in which palms of some kind could not advantageously be introduced.

## The Decoration of Parlors and Living Rooms

Nothing is prettier and more elegant, and in many respects gratifying, than the decoration of our parlors, reception rooms, halls, etc., with appropriate plants and flowers. A tasteful and carefully arranged composition of ornamental plants will captivate for a long time the love, attention and admiration of those that behold it. The influence of the graceful form of a young palm in the hall, the fascinating verdure of ferns and fine

Palms are among the easiest plants to cultivate and foster, their chief requirements being good drainage and an abundant supply of water to both roots and foliage; in the latter case, however, be sure that it is clean. Perhaps the greatest error possible to fall into in the care of palms, is to keep them entirely dry at any period of the year; they should never be allowed to feel the want of water.

In regard to repotting plants, we would strongly impress upon the minds of our customers the necessity of preserving intact the large fleshy roots which are sure to be found coiled among the drainage. Ruthlessly to destroy them is a fatal error, for they are feeders and real supporters of the plant. Should it at any time become necessary to reduce the roots of the palm by pruning, the plant should be plunged into a tank of water immediately after repotting; to keep them dry under these circumstances is an error which is almost sure to end fatally.

leaved plants from many countries, in the reception or drawing room, is surely more eloquent in its impression on the mind than any book teaching. By a combination of all the plants suitable for this purpose, we may not only find very agreeable indoor employment, but create the highest kind of ornament and interest in the house at all seasons.

## Cultivation and Care of Palms for the House and Conservatory

We presume that now, as palms have been proved to be the most useful and durable parlor plants, and as they can be purchased from us at a low price, they will become still more the favorite of our parlors and small house gardens. To cultivate palms well, it is necessary to plant them into flower pots which are deep enough to allow the roots to go freely, deep into the pot; this will be recompensed by the better and more rapid growth of the plants.

The pots need a good drainage, and the person taking care of palms must use his judgment in watering, as the degree of temperature, mode of heating, and proximity of plants to radiators, registers, etc., makes it difficult to give any definite directions to be followed in all circumstances.

The necessity of watering depends largely upon how long the plant will retain moisture; we say, a plant should never be so wet that the soil will sour, and never so dry that the roots shrink.

Never allow water to stand in the jardinières, this sours the soil and rots the roots; never wash the foliage with anything but pure water, as there is nothing better. Syringing or sprinkling the leaves at intervals will be found very beneficial.

"Will plants grow in the house?"

Allow us to give the following reply:

When a plant sooner or later begins to look sickly, it must always be considered that this is the natural result of the plant's being kept in the house; although they may thrive indoors for a long time, sometimes for years, especially where they receive proper care and treatment, they will nevertheless sooner or later, owing to the unnatural conditions to which they are subjected, succumb to the inevitable.

Plants should not be purchased for uses in the house, with the idea that they thrive and grow there as in the tropics, for here they meet conditions entirely unsuited to their nature and culture; they should be procured with the determination to give them the best care possible under the circumstances, so they will remain in perfect condition and prove a delight to the eye for the longest time possible.

It is a common fault of patrons to become so attached to a plant that, no matter into what poor condition it may have gotten, it is kept until it becomes an eyesore to everyone, instead of being an object of beauty. A plant in such a condition should either be sent to a florist for recuperation, or thrown out and supplanted by another which will meet the object of a decorative house-plant, namely, to be admired and looked upon as a joy.

Whenever plants begin to drop their leaves or show other signs of unhealthiness, it is certain that their well being has been injured. This may be due to overpotting, over-watering, over-heating, too much cold or the application of such stimulants as guano, or some other cause which has destroyed the fine rootlets by which the plant feeds, and induced disease that

may lead to death. The case is usually not important enough to call in a "plant doctor," so the amateur begins to treat the patient, and the practice is in all probability not unlike that of some of our household physicians, who apply a remedy that increases the malady.

Having already destroyed the nutritive organs of the plant, the "stomach" is gorged with food by applying water, or with medicine in the shape of guano, or some patent "plant food." Now this remedy is nearly akin to what is a good one when the animal digestion is deranged—give it no more food until it reacts. We must then if the roots of the plant have been injured from any of the above named causes, let the soil in which it is potted become nearly dry; then remove the plant from the pot, take the ball of soil in which the roots have been enveloped, and crush it between the hands just enough to allow all the hard outer crust of the ball of earth to be shaken off; and then repot in rather dry soil, using a new flower-pot, or the old one thoroughly washed, so that the moisture can freely evaporate through the pores. Be careful not to overfeed the sick plant; let the pot be only large enough to admit of not more than an inch of soil between the pot and the ball of roots. After repotting give it water enough to settle the soil and do not apply any more until the plant has begun to grow, unless the atmosphere is so dry that the moisture has entirely evaporated from the soil and then of course water must be given, or the patient may die from the opposite cause, starvation.

He who will put his palms, which served for decoration for a parlor during the winter, into the open air during the summer, in some shady sheltered place, will keep them for many years strong and healthy. Several species endure to be planted in the garden, but in replanting them into pots in the autumn, it is absolutely necessary to take great care of the roots, no injury must be done to the end points, and very carefully they have to be dug out.

The leaves of the palms are to be kept clean, free from dust and insects, and we recommend wetting them sometimes with a sponge.

Should large pots be used for palms, small ferns and plants may be grown with them at the same time, as this will not in the least disturb the growth of the palm, but will produce a splendid group of mingled palms and ferns.

How dreary our homes would be without the sweet presence of green foliage! Where plants shed their bright influence upon their surroundings they seem to give a "benediction of peace," for they beguile many a weary hour and soothe many a feverish or anxious life.

"Bright gems of Earth in which perchance we see  
What Eden was, what Paradise may be."



## A r e c a   L u t e s c e n s



**T**HIS elegant plant is somewhat of a nondescript, and has been bandied about from Areca to Hyophorbe several times; it was believed for some time to be the true Hyophorbe Indica, but that plant has made its appearance since in many conservatories and the present one has again fallen back into Areca, with the character of having several points of distinction about it, which will probably create for it a new genus. It is an

extremely beautiful plant with pinnate arching leaves; the stem and sheathing petiole are perfectly smooth, yellow in color, curiously and conspicuously mottled with black; the pinnae are from twelve to eighteen inches in length and one in breadth, pendent, and rich dark green on both sides. It is admirably adapted for table decoration, and also as a sub-tropical plant, if a very shady place is selected. Native of the Mascareen Islands.

# L a t a n i a   B o r b o n i c a



**A**LTHOUGH best known by the above name, this plant is now named *Livistona Chinensis*. It is a very popular and favorite species and very ornamental. The leaves are large, fan-shaped, with pendent marginal segments; they are supported upon petioles, some four or five feet in length, rounded below, flat

above and armed on the edges with short reflexed spines, enveloped at the base in a net-work of brown fibrous tissue. The hardy constitution and cheerful green of the whole plant render this eminently adapted for general decorative purposes, either within or out of doors. Native of the East Indies.



# Kentia Forsteriana



**T**HIS, too, is a species of great beauty and prominently adapted for indoor decoration. In its native country this plant is known as the "Thatch Palm" on account of its leaves being used in thatching houses; it is, like the *Kentia Belmoreana*, a

robust-growing species, attaining a considerable height. Its leaves are pinnate and very deep green, differing from the *Kentia Canterburyana*, the "Umbrella Palm," inasmuch as whereas in that species they are curled, in this plant they lay quite flat. Native of Lord Howe's Island.

## Kentia Belmoreana



**T**HIS is a genus of greenhouse palm, sometimes included in the genus *Areca*, from which, however, it has been separated by our best authorities, one of its distinguishing characteristics being a decumbent growth in its young state, whilst *Arecas* are erect in growth from the earliest stages. The *Kentias* are handsome, robust plants, with pinnulat leaves, which, together with petioles and stem, are quite destitute of spines. They are splendid objects for the decoration of

the greenhouse and the parlor, and succeed admirably also during the summer months in the sub-tropical garden. *Kentia Belmoreana* is indeed a very beautiful plant, known in its native country as the "Curly-leaved Palm"; when mature, it reaches a height of from forty to fifty feet. The leaves are pendulous and deep green, the leaflets having a handsome and curious curled appearance. It is a very graceful species. Native of Lord Howe's Island.

# Phoenix Canariensis



**T**HIS genus of Palms is very interesting and useful, *P. dactylifera* being the plant from which the Dates of our commerce are obtained. The plants comprising this family vary much in habit, for while some are almost destitute of stem, others attain considerable height, their crown of long pinnate leaves being supported upon stout trunks. The flower spikes are produced from among the leaves and not below them, male and female flowers being produced on

separate plants. The seeds of Phoenix can be easily distinguished from those of all other Palms by the deep groove extending down the back. Nearly all the species are well adapted for the decoration of apartments and in their young state they form elegant objects for the dinner table. *Phoenix reclinata* is an especially handsome species attaining medium height and is of a very effective appearance as a decorative plant, which position it eminently fills on account of its hardiness also.

## C y c a s   R e v o l u t a



THESE plants are very handsome in appearance and exceedingly useful either for conservatory decoration, or the embellishment of the home. The order Cycadacæ is closely related to the Coniferæ and Ferns, and judging from their fossil remains, it would seem that they formed a considerable portion of the vegetation of this country in earlier ages. *Cycas revoluta* is popularly though erroneously called the Sago Palm, for it has nothing to

do with the Palms. The stem becomes very stout, and attains a height of six to ten feet, although such examples are extremely rare and very old. This plant produces a beautiful crown of pinnate dark green leaves from two to six feet in length. As a parlor plant and for the decoration of halls and corridors it is surpassed by none and equalled by few. This plant is originally from China and Japan.



## C o c o s    W e d d e l l i a n a



**O**F the different species of *Cocos* cultivated for ornament *Cocos Weddelliana* is by far the most important. It is sold to florists and private people in large numbers in pots from 3 to 4 inches when the plants are from 2 to 15 inches high. They are favorite house plants, as their culture is easy and they grow slowly and retain their beauty a long while. They are, when small, much used in fern dishes. As a house plant *C. Weddelliana* is probably the most popular species of all smaller Palms.

It is especially suitable for table decorations and

therefore this dwarf cocoanut is very valuable to florists. The seeds are sent from Brazil and are about half an inch thick. If they are in good condition and kept continually moist and at a temperature of about 75° F., they frequently begin to germinate in six to eight weeks.

The soil for *C. Weddelliana* should be well drained, rather sandy in texture and may be enriched with some dry cow manure or a moderate quantity of bone dust. *C. Weddelliana* is probably the most elegant Palm introduced into this country and one that should be found in every collection of house plants.

## A s p i d i s t r a

**A** MORE useful and popular florists' plant than *Aspidistra* does not exist. It is grown for its stiff, shining, beautiful foliage and still more interesting it is on account of its remarkable flowers, which are inconspicuous, because borne close to the ground. Of all plants that are employed for the dec-

oration of public halls, etc. *Aspidistra lurida* is one of the greatest favorites, as it stands much abuse, such as dust, dry air and lack of water and light. It is, however, naturally fond of water and in its natural state grows freely on the margins of ponds or streams.

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## S a n s e v i e r a J a v a n i c a V a r i e g a t a

**A** VERY fine, interesting plant, bearing white flowers. It is commonly called Bowstring Hemp. The green leaves are lance shaped, with long extended fine points, striped finely on top and from two to three feet long and from two to four inches broad.

When young most varieties are marked with pale colored cross bands, but ultimately assume a uniform shining green.

This is one of the hardiest plants that can be procured for the house.

## P a n d a n u s   V e i t c h i i



**T**HIS species is among the most useful and beautiful of fine decorative plants, owing to its noble and graceful habit. The leaves are narrow, ascending in a young state, ultimately becoming pendulous, dark green, with bands of pure white extending from base to apex. Native of and peculiar to Round Island, a dependency of the Mauritius.

## P a n d a n u s   U t i l i s

**T**HE plants comprising this genus are familiarly known as Screw Pines from the very peculiar spiral arrangement of their leaves. In their young state many of the species of Pandanus are admirably suited for apartment decorations. The leaves of *P. utilis* are broad, from three to six or eight feet in length,

tapering to a long point, glaucous green, save at the margins, where they are dark red, and, as well as the back of the mid-rib, armed with dark red spines; the base of the leaves is also a dark red. In a young state the leaves are slightly pendulous and then they are invaluable for decorative purposes. Native of Bourbon.

# F i c u s   E l a s t i c a



**I**N this family we have some of the most ornamental plants which it is possible to find for the decoration of the conservatory, living rooms or hall. The ceraceous texture of their leaves and their robust constitution eminently adapt them for ornamenting the home. These plants are easily grown and many of them will endure a great deal of rough treatment with impunity. They should be potted in somewhat heavy soil—that is a mixture of loam, peat and sand in proportion of three parts of the former to one of the last named. *Ficus elastica* is a well known plant and is grown in many a dwelling under the name of Rubber Plant. It especially is admirably suited for the decoration of apartments or halls. The leaves are from six to eighteen inches in length and from three to six

inches wide. The upper side is dark bright shining green; yellowish green is the color below. The Ficus is of easy culture, although many dismal failures are admitted by some good growers in rooting cuttings, owing perhaps to the use of unripened wood or to the growing of plants in too warm and close a temperature. The Ficus is a lover of air and sunshine and cuttings taken from well-ripened wood of plants that have been outdoors all summer seldom fail to take root. Old plants that have been grown in the house and have become pot-bound and stopped growing can be made into specimens by planting them out in the garden in summer in good rich soil, but they must be put back into pots before cold weather sets in.



## Dracaenas



**T**HIS is a genus of tropical plants of which but few are in cultivation. They are all woody, often a borescent, with sword-shaped or broad leaves, mostly crowded at the summit of the stem; flowers form in clusters in panicles or heads and are of a greenish-white or yellowish color. The Dracænas are amongst the most useful and beautiful of fine-foliaged plants, partly owing to their noble but careful habit, and partly owing to the colors which the leaves of many specimens assume. The grand additions that have been made to this genus of late years by importation and hybridizing is something wonderful. They are easily grown in a mixture of two parts peat to one of loam, with good drainage, and a fair amount of pot room. Of the different varieties of this genus we are able to offer to our patrons we will mention only the following: *Dracaena terminalis*, a lovely plant, being equally at home

in the store, the conservatory or parlor. Its leaves are large and broadly lanceolate, tapering to a blunt point; the ground color is a deep purplish bronze, which is intermixed over fully one-half the leaf with a rich bright crimson, this being dashed and blotched with light green. Such a happy combination of colors renders this one of the most handsome kinds in the genus. *Dracaena indivisa* is another superb plant, forming an elegant ornament for table or room decoration, greenhouse, conservatory or the open air in summer. The leaves are from two to four feet in length and one to two inches in breadth, tapering to a point, pendent and dark green. The varieties *D. Fragrans*, *D. Massangeana* and *D. Lindenii* are also to be classed with the finest and most distinct of recent additions to this genus. They, too, are of excellent habit, with beautifully variegated colors. All of these plants should be in every collection.

## Araucaria Excelsa



**A** GENUS of conifers which includes many species of surpassing beauty. They are noble ornaments in a conservatory or parlor, their symmetry and elegant proportions attracting attention and eliciting universal praise. In their young state they are very useful for table decorations and as they increase in size they may be used for the embellishment of the drawing room

or parlor or for any other similar purposes. *Araucaria excelsa* (the Norfolk Island Pine) is a most beautiful and symmetrical plant; the branches are verticillate, symmetrical and pendulous; leaves bright green in color. It is one of the most useful and ornamental plants that can be grown. There are many varieties of this valuable species.

## F e r n s

WHETHER viewed collectively as plants of extreme beauty and interest or for their general usefulness in arrangements with flowering subjects, Ferns are indispensable and possess attractions peculiar to themselves. Their popularity is ever increasing, as former ideas regarding the supposed difficulty in their culture and preservation have vanished or have become at least considerably modified. A more interesting sight than a parlor or hall or any other apartment decorated with Ferns, if tastefully arranged, can hardly be imagined. Partial shade and moisture suit Ferns very well and in building an outdoor rock work for hardy

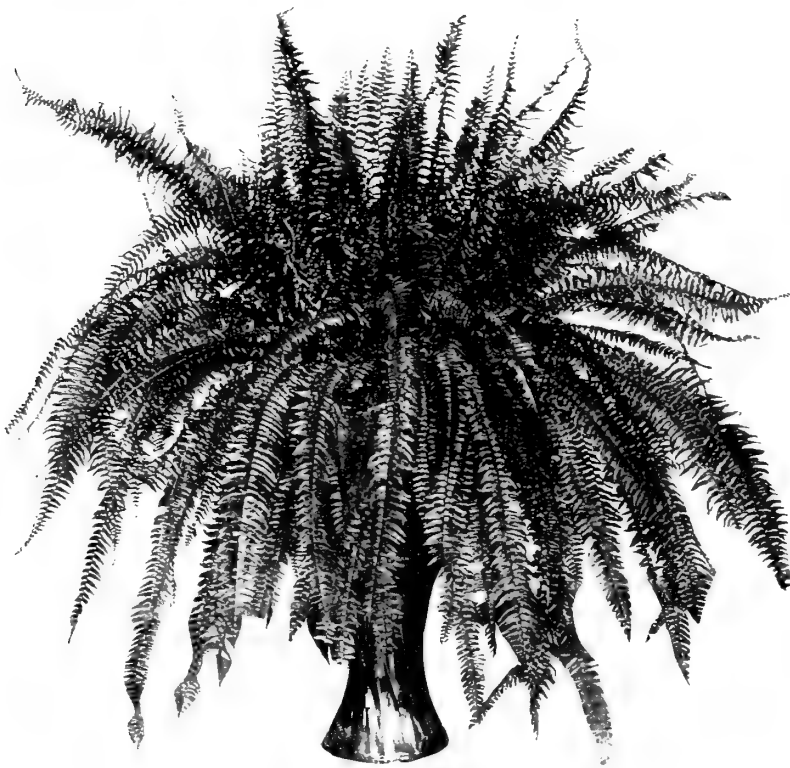
Ferns the requirements of the plants must be the main object; large, well drained pockets being insured in preference to the appearance of the stones, that are, in great part hidden by the fronds. Loam and peat, with a quantity of crushed stone or brick, intermixed and used around the roots when planting, materially assist them to become established. On the pages following are briefly described a few of the most popular species of Ferns, which are specially distinguished by interesting habits and decorative beauty and elegance. These are such only as we can sincerely recommend to the lover of plants as objects of supreme delight.

## P t e r i s

THIS is a Greek name for a Fern, from a word meaning wing, alluding to the prevalence of pinnate forms. Pteris is a large genus of widely distributed Ferns with the sporangia borne on a marginal line-like receptacle that connects the free ends of the veins. Many of the forms are among the most popular species of Ferns and are quite generally used for table decorations. To this class belong *Pteris serrulata cristata*, which have leaves from three to twelve

inches long on slender, brownish stalks, consisting of a terminal pinna and from five to six pairs of lateral ones. It is a native of China and Japan. *Pteris umbrosa* possesses fronds one to two feet in length and from six to twelve inches broad with a terminal pinna and usually six to nine lateral ones, all of which run down the stipe at the base, so as to form a broad wing, which reaches nearly or quite to the next node. Native of Australia. We always carry a stock of small Ferns for fern dishes.

## Nephrolepis Bostoniensis

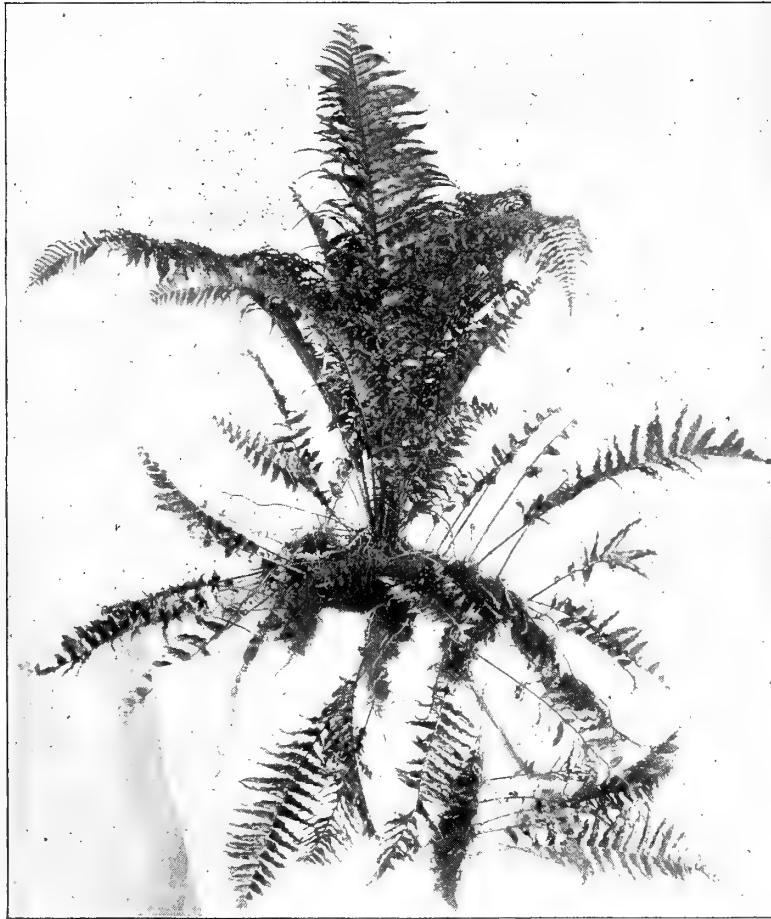


**T**HE *Boston Fern* (*Nephrolepis Bostoniensis*) equals in popularity many of the most decorative Palms. It is a rapid grower, withstands furnace heat and gas and is quite unaffected by ordinary changes in temperature. It increases rapidly, a 4-inch

plant reaching a 10-inch size in a year, besides making many new offshoots. A good-sized plant contains from twenty to forty fronds and the fresh ones continually coming out with new growth are very beautiful. It gives universal satisfaction.



## Nephrolepis Wittboldii



THE above cut shows a plant of *N. Wittboldii* lifted from the bench. After being photographed 40 runners were taken from this plant and potted up.

It is even more prolific than the well known Boston fern. It has not only greatly added beauty and grace, but possesses every characteristic necessary to make it a money maker for the small as well as the large grower. It reproduces with remarkable freedom, grows quickly into a fine specimen, and as a house plant is fully as tough and lasting as *N. Bostoniensis*.

## *The Geo. Wittbold Company*

The new *Sword Fern* (*Nephrolepis Wittboldii*) has awakened widespread interest. Mr. George Wittbold, the founder and president of this firm, had the good fortune to find among his thousands of *Nephrolepis exaltata Bostoniensis* seedlings, a new variety which at once attracted his attention and soon developed into a valuable novelty, when it was named after its discoverer, *Nephrolepis Wittboldii*. This new variety is of a very robust growth. The fronds, with finely crinkled edges, attain at an age of only two years a length of about five feet and often show a width in the center of one foot. This

plant is very hardy and for this reason it is eminently suited for indoor decorations. It is, indeed, doubtful if any other plant will give greater satisfaction in this direction, than *Nephrolepis Wittboldii*. It will not be amiss to state here, that Mr. Wittbold obtained from the original plant, which had been planted out upon a benchbed in one of the greenhouses, inside of two years not less than 3,000 young plants from runners. As evidence of the appreciation this new Fern has earned for itself we will subjoin the following letters from well-known firms of commercial gardeners:

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Newark, O., Dec. 27, 1900.

The Geo. Wittbold Co., Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:—Please ship me as soon as possible 300 more of your *Nephrolepis Wittboldii*. The plants I received from you a short time ago are doing so nicely that the more I see of them the more I am convinced that “Wittboldii” is the great fern of the future and I feel that I cannot get too heavy a stock. And I know that every enterprising florist will purchase a stock of it as soon as he sees what a grand decorative plant it will make.

Wishing you a prosperous New Year, I remain

Yours truly,

A. J. Baldwin.

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Philadelphia, Feb. 1, 1901.

The Geo. Wittbold Co., Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:—We are much pleased with the *Nephrolepis Wittboldii*; the specimen plant you recently sent

shows the character of the plant very nicely; its bold, heavy foliage, which is made to appear very light and graceful by the wavy edge, should make this a most valuable decorative fern, for which there is room alongside the Boston Fern. We see no reason why the new plant should not become just as popular as this valuable variety.

Yours very truly,

HENRY A. DREER.

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Richmond, Ind., June 24, 1901.

The Geo. Wittbold Co., Chicago, Ill.

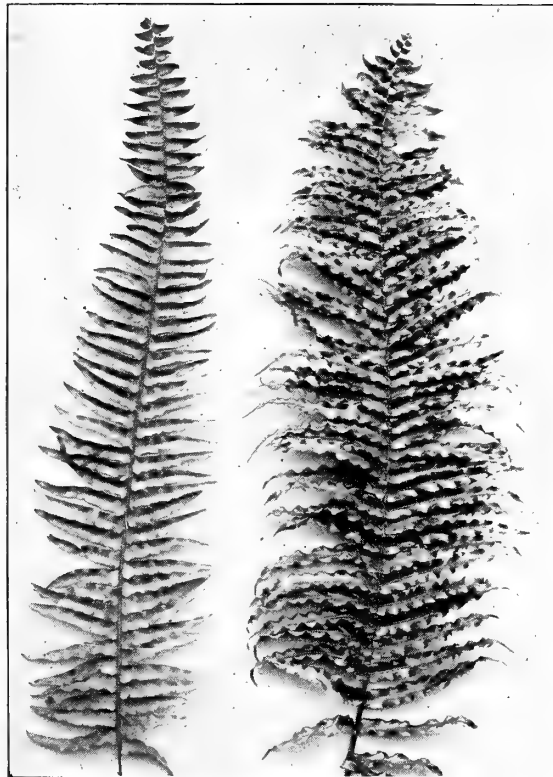
Gentlemen:—We are greatly pleased with your new Fern “Wittboldii” and predict for it great popularity. Our plants are now showing their true characteristics and it is hard to conceive a more beautiful plant. The fronds will certainly be in great favor for cutting purposes.

Yours truly,

THE E. G. HILL CO.

## Nephrolepis Bostoniensis

## Nephrolepis Wittboldii



Frond of *N. Bostoniensis*

Frond of *N. Wittboldii*

THE above cut shows fronds of *Nephrolepis Bostoniensis* and *Wittboldii*, photographed side by side. Although similar, notice how much more robust and distinct are the characteristics of the *Wittboldii*. For floral work the leaves are without equal; they are large, the pinnae are wavy, which gives the leaf a very delicate appearance. It is very effective under flat sprays in place of *Cycas* leaves or any place where a large leaf can be used.

## Fern Balls



**A**MONG the many objects of plant ornamentation the Japanese Fern Balls certainly deserve to be accorded a prominent place. The ferns used for these balls—*Davallia Bullata* and *D. Mariesii*—are of a very dwarfish habit and for this reason eminently adapted for these tiny hanging ornaments. We start them into growth and sell them when the mass is well covered with its delicate vegetation. To start their growth we drench the balls in a tub of water and then hang them in a warm house, not in direct sunlight. When the plants are well started, we gradually expose them to more light and to a cooler air.

It is well to give liquid manure if they do not grow satisfactorily. Here is what the "American Florist" has to say on this subject: "These balls are usually received from abroad in a dormant condition and the first thing to be done with them is to give them a good soaking in water. They should then be hung up in a warm and partly shaded house. A palm house in which a night temperature of 60° to 65° F. is maintained, will

furnish about the right conditions in which to start them. In a short time the young fronds should appear and the chief care during this period is that the fern balls shall not be allowed to get too dry, else the tender foliage is likely to suffer. The best method of watering is to dip the entire ball in a tub of water. After the fronds have developed the fern balls may be removed to a lighter and more airy house, in order that the growth may be hardened somewhat before the plants are offered for sale. From the fact that these fern balls are usually composed of a small mass of vegetable matter more or less covered with the rhizomes of certain *Davallias*, *D. Bullata* and *D. Mariesii* being more commonly used for this purpose, they are liable to suffer from lack of nourishment if kept on hand for any length of time, and to remedy this an occasional dipping in a weak liquid manure will be found beneficial, for most ferns will respond to such treatment providing the manure water is not too strong."



## Asparagus—(Ornamental)



**Asparagus Plumosus Nanus.**

**T**HE many species of Asparagus are of very various habits. Some are climbers, some drooping or trailing and others are highly prized for their very graceful and fine foliage. Some species even surpass the most delicate Ferns in elegance of habit and delicacy of spray. The foliage is really composed of leaflike branches rather than of true leaves. They are of easy culture and form a very important part in decorative arrangements for parlor or hall.

*Asparagus Sprengeri* is one of the most popular basket and decorative plants known and of easy culture.

It is highly valued for the fine effects it produces when properly employed by the skillful hand of the decorator. The foliage is of bright green, the leaves straight or slightly curved, the stems wide climbing and from two to six feet long.

*Asparagus plumosus* is also an elegant ever-green climber and is distinguished by the fullness and flatness of its fronds and by its refusal to multiply by means of cuttings. It is a tall climbing species, branches spreading horizontally in elegant sprays. It is one of the most popular decorative plants.

*The Geo. Wittbold Company*

## CUT FLOWER DEPARTMENT

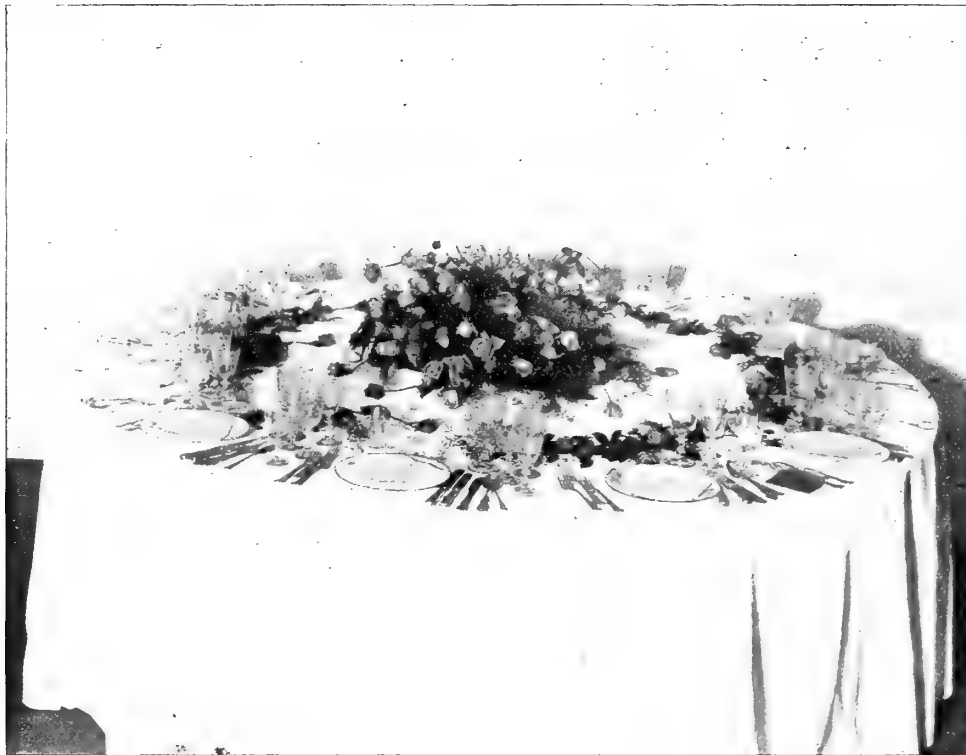


TABLE DECORATION



**SHOWER BOUQUET**

The above style of bouquet is now used almost exclusively  
for up-to-date weddings



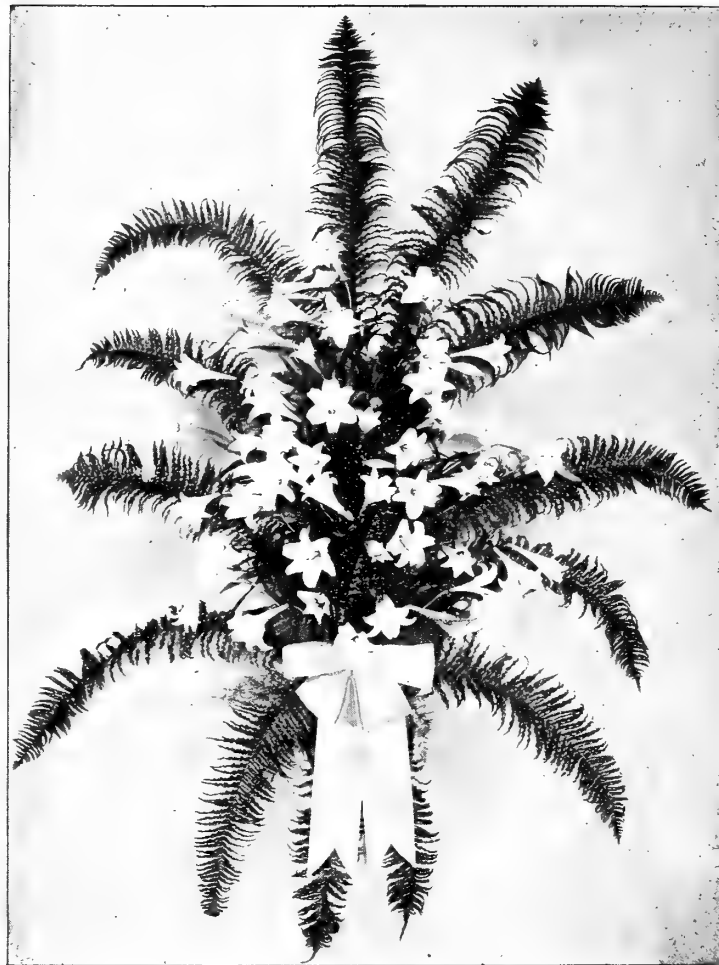
**Birch Bark Basket of Gloire de Lorraine Begonia, Palms, Asparagus, Etc.**

The above arrangement is largely used during the holiday season  
and is very effective



**Birch Bark Canoe with Bridesmaid Roses and Ribbon**

Arrangement for Buffet Table



**Lilies tied on leaves of *Nephrolepis Wittboldii***

**An effective Casket Spray**



**GALAX LEAF WREATH**  
**With spray of White Roses tied with Ribbon**





**SPRAY OF PALM LEAVES, ASPARAGUS AND FERNS.**



**GATES AJAR**

**With base of Palm Leaves and Fancy Foliage**

# PREPARED PLANT DEPARTMENT



**PALM TREE—Fan Leaf Variety**



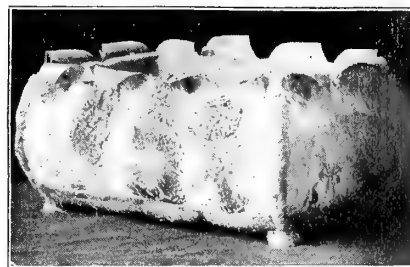
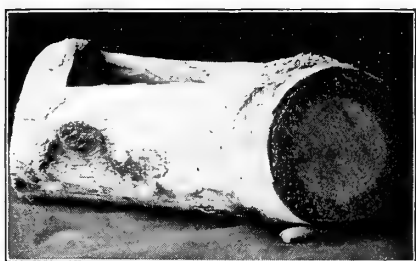
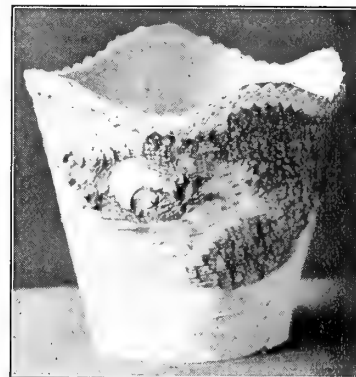
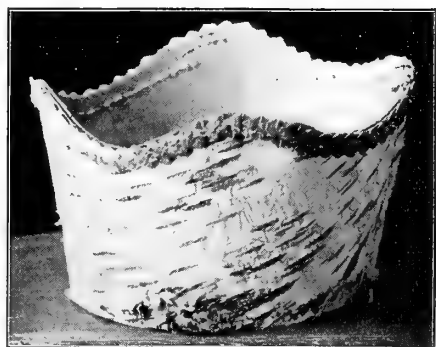
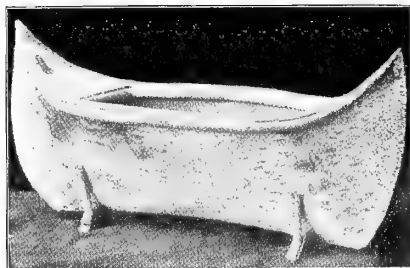
**PHOENIX PALM**



**ARECA PALM**

*PRICES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION*

## BIRCH BARK WARE



*PRICES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION*



VIEW OF OUR BUCKINGHAM PLACE STORE

# WHOLE SALE PRICE-LIST.

Variety	Size 3 in pot	Height Inches	No. Leaves	Each	Per Dox.	Per 100
Areca Lutescens	2 1/2	5 to 6			\$5.00	
" "	3	8 to 10			8.00	
" "	3 1/2	12 to 15			15.00	
" "	4	18 to 20		\$ .25	25.00	
Kentia Belmoreana	2 1/2	8 to 9	3 to 4		12.00	
" "	3	10 to 12	4 to 5		15.00	
" "	3 1/2	12 to 14	5 to 6	.25	20.00	
" "	4	14 to 16	5 to 7	.30		
" Forsteriana	2 1/2	8 to 9	3 to 4		12.00	
" "	3	10 to 12	4 to 5		15.00	
" "	3 1/2	12 to 14	5 to 6	.25	20.00	
" "	4	14 to 16	4 to 5	.50	30.00	
Latania Borbonica	2 1/2	3			4.00	
" "	3	12	5 to 6		8.00	
" "	3 1/2	12 to 15	5 to 6	.15	18.00	
" "	4	15 to 18	5 to 7	.25	20.00	
" "	5	18 to 22	6 to 7	.50	35.00	
" "	6	18 to 24	6 to 8	.75	50.00	
" "	7	22 to 26	7 to 9	1.00		
" " strong	8	24 to 26	7 to 10	1.25		
Asparagus Springerii	3				3.00	
" "	4				8.00	
" "	5				12.00	
" "	6				15.00	
" "	7					
" "	8					
" Plu. Nan.	3				4.00	
" "	4				8.00	
" "	5				15.00	
" " " from seed boxes					\$25.00 per 1000	
Nephrolepis Wiltboldii strong 4" plants					5.00	
Phoenix Canariensis	4				3.00	
" "	5				5.00	
Sansevieria Jav. Var.	2 1/2				.50	
" "	3				1.00	
" "	4				3.00	
" "	5				3.00	
" "	6				3.00	
Ficus Elastica	5				5.00	
" " strong	6				5.00	
Araclia Sieboldii	5				4.00	
" "	6				5.00	
" " strong	6				7.00	
Pandanus Voichii	5			1.00	15.00	
" "	6			1.50	18.00	
" "	7			2.50	30.00	
" "	8			3.50	42.00	

Cycas Revoluta: we have an immense stock of good values from \$1.00 to \$2.00

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CHICAGO,

ILL.







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DECORATING.....

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1657-1659 Buckingham Place

Chicago,

To our Patrons:-

We herewith send our price-list of stock now ready for shipment, with descriptive catalogue, which we hope will be of interest.

Our Begonias Wittboldii in 4" pots, are fine stock, ready for retailing or growing on.

Customers would do well to order while stock lasts.

Assuring you of our prompt and careful attention if favored with your order,

we remain,

Yours very truly,

THE GEO. WITTBOLD CO.

Geo. W.









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- GREEN HOUSES